



March 6, 2023

Testimony on S.B. 1077 “An Act Concerning the Acceptance by Physicians of Patients Who Are Medicaid Recipients”

Esteemed Leadership & Members of the Public Health Committee,

Please accept this testimony on behalf of the Connecticut Academy of Physician Associates for S.B. 1077 “An Act Concerning the Acceptance by Physicians of Patients Who Are Medicaid Recipients.” ConnAPA has concern for elements of this bill.

ConnAPA agrees that increasing access to care for our most vulnerable populations is imperative, and so supports a work group that would explore ways to increase that access. The work group should be expanded however to include other important stakeholders, and also should not be limited to physician acceptance of Medicaid. In the current healthcare landscape, physicians are not the only healthcare providers that see patients and/or deny access to care for Medicaid patients. As mental health has become an increasingly more prevalent crisis, the same problem applies to those various providers. Healthcare systems should also be involved in such a discussion as the majority of providers in this state are not in a solo practice but part of a larger system.

Additionally, Section 2 of this bill, which provides protection to physicians only when treating Medicaid patients is an unequal protection that should be expanded to other providers, such as PAs, APRNs, mental health professionals, etc.

ConnAPA would be happy to work with this legislative body and other stakeholders on this issue to ensure that Connecticut’s patients have the access to care that they deserve. With some modification, the intent of this bill is an important one that deserves to be brought forward.

***Jason Prevelige, MBA, PA-C, DFAAPA
Chair, Legislative Committee
Connecticut Academy of Physician Associates***

One Regency Drive • P. O. Box 30 • Bloomfield, CT 06002

(860) 243-3977 • Fax (860) 286-0787 • connapa@ssmgt.com • www.connapa.org